

AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
Issue: ANS-322
Date: 1989-11-18
Sources: amsat-ans-1989-ans-310.01.txt

SB ALL @ AMSAT \$ANS-322.01
MICROSAT LAUNCH DATE ADVANCES

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 322.01 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD NOVEMBER 18, 1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

MICROSAT/UOSAT Launch Date Is ADVANCED!; Now Set For January 9, 1990

In what is considered a suprise announcement, Arianspace officials have informed AMSAT-NA and University of Surrey this week that the launch date of the MICROSATs and the UOSAT D/E satellites has been ADVANCED 10 DAYS! The launch date is now planned for January 9, 1990. This change in the launch date is the direct result of the postponement of the previous mission, designated by Arianespace as V35A, and was planned to lift-off on Dec. 13th. It appears that the problem with the V35A mission is caused by one of the primary payloads, known as "SUPERBIRD B," which is having technical problems and will not be ready for launch on Dec. 13th. So Arianespace officials have decided to use this extra time to prepare for the next ARIANE flight, known as the V36A mission; they feel that moving the MICROSAT/UOSAT launch date ahead ten days is feasible. Since the MICROSATs and UOSAT D & E, along with the primary payload SPOT-2, are ready to fly, the launch campaign will now begin on November 27th. That is the day in which the payload integration teams from AMSAT and the University of Surrey, along with their satellites, will arrive in Kourou, French Guyana. By Dec. 20th all of the payloads will be fully integrated aboard the ARIANE IV rocket and the teams will then return home on December 23rd. After a short Christmas break, the final AMSAT/UOSAT teams will then travel back to Kourou and will stay there and monitor their respective satellites until the launch on January 9th.

Since events are moving very quickly now, OSCAR satellite users should monitor the AMSAT HF/VHF Nets, OSCAR-13 Operations Nets, and watch the AMSAT News Service (ANS) bulletins for any further details concerning the launch of MICROSATs (PACSAT, DOVE, LUSAT, and WEBERSAT) and UOSAT D & E.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT \$ANS-322.02
A0-13 ATTITUDE RE-ADJUSTMENT

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 322.02 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD NOVEMBER 18, 1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

OSCAR Will Undergo An Attitude Re-Adjustment On Nov. 22, 1989

On November 22nd, magnetorquing on OSCAR-13 will begin in order to change its attitude so that its solar panels will stay fully illuminated by the sun's rays. Presently the Bahn coordinates are 208 deg longitude and -7 deg latitude. After the attitude re-adjustment on November 22nd, the new Bahn coordinates will be 179.4 deg latitude/+3.6 deg longitude. Please note that this attitude maneuver will start on ORBIT # 1090 and may last thru ORBIT # 1093. During the perigee periods of these orbits, the transponders may be turned off from MA 200 to 060. Once OSCAR-13's attitude has been changed, a new transponder operating schedule will be as follows:

A013 SCHEDULE FROM 22NOV89

MODE B MA 000 TO MA 110

MODE JL MA 110 TO MA 145
OFF MA 145 TO MA 150
S BEACON MA 146 TO MA 147
MODE S MA 147 TO MA 160
MODE B MA 150 TO MA 255
OMNI ANT MA 225 TO MA 035

As always, please monitor the OSCAR-13 telemetry beacon or AMSAT HF/VHF Nets for any further details concerning the operating schedule of OSCAR-13.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT \$ANS-322.03
ARRL DXCC QSL INQUIRY

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 322.03 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD NOVEMBER 18, 1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

An Inquiry About Satellite QSLs for DXCC From The DXCC Desk Of The ARRL

In an effort to insure that its policies concerning acceptance of Satellite QSL cards are reasonable and proper, the ARRL DXCC Desk is soliciting comments from AMSAT members concerning QSLing practices. Our current policy is to accept only those cards which explicitly state that the contact was made via satellite.

Our concern is whether or not our acceptance policy is in line with the QSL practices of satellite DXers. Basically, we are interested in learning what type of information individual operators include on their QSL cards. Comments should be brief, but please be sure to include the following: some indication of the amount of your satellite activity, what percentage of that is DX, and your QSLing habits. Those who have noticed variations in the format of cards they've received may include such observations in their comments.

The ARRL DXCC Desk appreciates your cooperation in this matter. 73!

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT \$ANS-322.04
AMSAT SHORT BURSTS

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 322.04 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD NOVEMBER 18, 1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMSAT Short Bursts

AMSAT Operations Net Manager, Courtney Duncan (N5BF), wants to remind OSCAR-13 users that the next A0-13 Operations Net is scheduled for November 26, 1989 at 19:30 UTC on a Mode B downlink frequency of 145.950 MHz. The Operations Net is designed to be highly informative in nature and will cover a wide variety of topics which all OSCAR satellite enthusiasts should find interesting. So don't be left out, join Courtney for this excellent Net on Nov. 26th.

For those wishing to obtain a copy of Antonio Franklin's (N6NKF) new satellite tracking program, InstantTrack 1.0, contact AMSAT-NA HQ's at (303) 589-6062 for more information.

AMSAT-NA is pleased to announce the availability of a new A0-13 PSK telemetry decoding program for the IBM-PC or compatibles that have a minimum of 256K RAM, a 360K disk-drive, a Serial port, and either a monochrome or color monitor. This new program was written by Jack Mathias (W9FMW) and runs in conjunction with the G3RUH 400 PSK modem. This menu driven program will decode every "page" of telemetry from A0-13. If you would like more information about obtaining this program, contact AMSAT-NA HQ's at (301) 589-6062.

Doug Loughmiller(K05I), President of AMSAT-NA, wants to inform all AMSAT members that the new AMSAT BBS will now be part of the Dallas Remote Imaging Group's (DRIG) BBS at (214) 394-7438.

If you are building one of the TAPR or G3RUH 1200 Baud PSK modems so that you will be ready for the launch of the MICROSATs, a good way to "bench" test your modem is with a tape cassette which Jack Mathias (W9FMW) is offering. You can use this cassette to test out your modems without having to have a "live" signal. Also, you can be sure that the modem and the rest of your system is operating correctly before the launch of the MICROSATs early next year. So if you would like to find out more information about how to obtain the W9FMW TEST TAPE FOR TAPR/G3RUH MODEMS, contact AMSAT-NA HQ's at (301) 589-6062.

L de DB20S & VK5AGR 02Nov89: ** AMSAT OSCAR-10 Status Report **

Please DO NOT USE the Mode B transponder on A0-10 until 20-Nov-89 since A0-10 does not have sufficient solar illumination to support the general use of the Mode-B transponder at this time. If stations will refrain from using the Mode-B transponder until that time, then the transponder can be made available for general use on 20-Nov-89 from MA 25 to MA 255. Once A0-13 operations begin on 20-NOV-89, DO NOT USE the Mode B transponder from MA 0 to MA 25 as A0-10 will be in eclipse during this period until 29-Nov-89.

The ZRO Memorial Technical Achievement Award Program, or just "ZRO Test" will be reactivated in late November following the mid-November reorientation of OSCAR-13. This activity is designed to be a test of operating skill and equipment performance. The following schedule of Mode "B" ZRO tests with a downlink frequency of 145.840 MHz was chosen for convenient operating times and favorable squint angles:

Saturday	November 25, 1989 at 20:30 UTC
Saturday	December 02, 1989 at 12:40 UTC
Saturday	December 16, 1989 at 20:00 UTC
Saturday	December 30, 1989 at 16:00 UTC
Saturday	January 13, 1990 at 12:00 UTC
Saturday	January 20, 1990 at 15:30 UTC

Any changes will be announced as soon as possible via the AMSAT HF/VHF Nets and OSCAR-13 Operations Nets. ZRO brochures are available from WA5ZIB, Andy MacAllister, AMSAT V.P. of User Operations, 14714 Knightsway Drive, Houston, TX 77083 for an S.A.S.E. with one unit of postage. The brochure characterizes test procedures, means for obtaining certificates and gives some historical background about the program.

/EX

Posted: Sat, Nov 25, 1989 7:23 PM GMT Msg: FGIJ-4100-8654
From: DLOUGHMILLER
To: AMSAT
CC: NCS, IS
Subj: ANS schedule change

Beginning this week the AMSAT News Service will observe a new production schedule. In the past several years the News Service has released material on Saturdays for dissemination through the following week. Beginning this week News Service releases will be made on Monday evenings US time for use through the following week. This change is being made in order to allow for additional input to the ANS to be made and for a more comprehensive review of ANS material to take place involving a small editorial review staff of key AMSAT managers. This is to insure that the material that is being

published is as accurate and complete as possible.

Net control stations who will be handling net control activities during the weekend of November 25 and 26 should utilize ANS bulletins \$ANS-322 and \$ORBS-317 for these net sessions. The net set of news service material will be posted Monday November 27th.

We greatly appreciate everyone's support and cooperation as we make these changes to the distribution of AMSAT News Service material.

73

Doug Loughmiller, K05I

Posted: Tue, Nov 28, 1989 2:26 AM GMT Msg: AGIJ-4102-2079
From: DLOUGHMILLER
To: AMSAT, NCS, IS
CC: BOD, OFFICERS
Subj: ANS material Delay

Well Boys,

I am afraid that I must report that a small glitch has caught up with us in our first effort to disseminate the ANS material in the new schedule.

The material will be posted about 12 hours later than announced over the weekend. The material will be posted no later than 16:00 UTC Tuesday in plenty of time for the Tuesday evening nets here in the US.

I apologize for the delay this time around. Please bear with us as we get our new mechanism working properly. I do believe that the improved service with the ANS bulletin material will be worth the trouble we've had getting it out this week.

73

Doug

Posted: Tue, Nov 28, 1989 10:14 PM GMT Msg: DGIJ-4102-8928
From: DLOUGHMILLER
To: AMSAT, NCS
CC: IS
Subj: ANS release

Better late than never as they say. The ANS-332 bulletins are now posted to IS
Thanks for the cooperation.
73 Doug